

Appn.# 10/597,346 (Reistroffer)

Amendment D

Page 9 of 10

REMARKS

The Applicant has amended the claims and specification to define the invention more particularly and distinctly so as to define the invention patentably over the prior art, and to provide for proper disclosure and/or protection of the invention.

1. Paragraph [0040] is amended by adding the word “may” in the last sentence of the paragraph, which now reads, in part: “The incendiary strand of the present invention is provided with a fuel component that may exhibit flaming combustion for a duration of from ten seconds to five minutes in time...” The change is necessary to avoid restricting the claimed invention to a definite performance characteristic, as alternative embodiments may require differing durations of flame production depending on the characteristics of the vegetative matter to be ignited by the incendiary strand.
2. Claim 26 is amended to delete the limitation that the cellulose fiber substrate is impregnated *and* coated with a pyrotechnic composition, as the essential function of the pyrotechnic element of the invention does not rely on a particular method of manufacture.
3. Claim 43 is cancelled as being indefinite.
4. Claim 47 is amended to remove the redundant term “linear”, and to remove the definite article “the” in reference to desired fire behavior characteristics.

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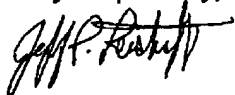
Page 10 of 10

5. Claim 48 is cancelled, as it is directed towards a specific application of essentially the same method of Claim 47.
6. Claim 49 is amended to depend from Claim 47 instead of cancelled Claim 48, and to more accurately define and describe a claimed method of using the apparatus of Claim 1.
7. Claim 50 is cancelled.
8. New independent Claim 76 is added to describe a preferred embodiment of the invention described in Claim 1, and is represented by figures 3 and 4 of the drawings. The new claim further limits the subject matter of Claim 1, and will require no additional search or examination.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the specification and claims are in proper form, and that the claims all define patently over the prior art. Therefore the applicant submits that this application is now in condition for issuance, which action is respectfully solicited upon applicant's submittal of the appropriate fees.

Very Respectfully,



Jeffrey P. Reistroffer

Applicant Pro Se